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DRL/MLGA FOR DANIKA WALTERS

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>EUN PHUM PREL</u>

SUBJECT: MAURITIUS TO CONSIDER PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE

POINTS AT UN MISSION LEVEL

REF: A. SECSTATE 40380 • PORT LOUIS 93

11. Post delivered reftel A demarche to First Secretary of Multilateral Affairs, Rabindranath Sawmy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Cooperation, on April 22. Sawmy admitted having no prior knowledge of the subject of Prisoners of Conscience, but quickly gained understanding during the demarche as he took Poloff's general description of the issue and preemptively cited Burma as a specific country example of where such prisoners may be held. (Note: The human rights situation in Burma is the only country specific situation within the last year in which Mauritius has taken a public stand. See Reftel B for reference to Mauritian policy on country specific resolutions)

12. Sawmy assured Poloff that he would send the draft joint US - EU resolution, along with notes from reftel A delivered talking points, to the Mauritian UN mission in New York. He further encouraged that the relevant US counterpart directly contact Minister Dhalladoo, Minister Counselor, Mauritian UN Mission anytime before the declaration is issued in the General Assembly. Dhalladoo can be reached by email: mauritius@un.int or phone: (212) 949-0190. RYDE